



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Finance Committee Minutes 04-26-2003

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

8:30 AM O'Neill room, community safety building

4/26/03

ATTENDEES:

| | | | | |
|------------|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Janowitz | Feinleib* | O'Riordan* | O'Neill | Mahoney* |
| DeCoursey* | Connors* | Simmons* | Morrisette | |
| Tosti* | Foskett* | Deyst* | Ronan* | |
| Piandes | Franclemont* | Jones* | Olsen* | |
| DuBois* | Howard* | Fanning* | Tosi* | Kneeland* |

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Town Manager Nancy Galkowski, Police Chief Fred Ryan, Jackie Harrington, Paul Bayer

GENERAL: The impact of the House Ways & Means budget on Arlington of an additional \$100,000 reduction in state aid has been confirmed. The snow and ice expense is \$290,000, which may be covered from the Reserve Fund. Tosti provided a draft Finance Committee detailed budget.

TOWN MANAGER BUDGETS: Galkowski reviewed the approach she took to making budget reductions and then discussed each department in turn. She has tried to minimize the effect on what she called core services: Police, Fire and Public Works. The Finance Committee has a document containing her proposed reductions and the funds she would restore if the override passes. The Board of Selectmen has not voted on these proposals. Galkowski responded to a variety of questions. She received thanks from several members for the way she has addressed the deficit.

ARTICLE 16 REFUSE CONTRACT: Galkowski stated that the Town has agreed in principal to a 5-year contract with Wheelabrator, without any GAT and with fixed costs per ton. She said the rates were favorable based on a consultant's research. Details provided in Board of Selectmen Report. Members expressed skepticism about Wheelabrator's good faith. There is concern with Wheelabrator's desire to refinance some of their municipal bonds with possible Town involvement. Galkowski said that when a contract is received, it will be carefully reviewed before it is signed. DeCoursey and Deyst to work with Harrington to develop a recommended vote. VOTED to table. Unanimous.

ARTICLE 50 M SCHEDULE & NON-UNION COLAS: Galkowski provided a draft motion that would grant these employees a 3% COLA in FY03 but none in FY04. This will cost \$73,000 in FY04. These employees have agreed to a sliding-scale HMO contribution level. She was questioned on the need to grant a COLA to the M Schedule, given large increases in recent years, and she explained this was how the schedule remains competitive. VOTED \$146,000 as recommended in the draft motion. 15-1.

ARTICLE 51 ELECTED OFFICIALS COLA: VOTED to table until the Finance Committee learns whether these people accept the sliding scale HMO contribution schedule. Unanimous.

BUDGET 1 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Members agreed to a 30% stipend reduction as suggested by the General Government Subcommittee (DuBois), and no change to the Exec Sect salary. VOTED \$10,027 with stipend reduction. Unanimous

BUDGET 2 BOARD OF SELECTMEN: General Government Subcommittee (DuBois) recommended several changes including reducing the number of polling places to 8. VOTED \$292,765, as recommended. Unanimous.

BUDGET 3 TOWN MANAGER: VOTED \$274,004 as recommended by the General Government Subcommittee (DuBois). Unanimous.

BUDGET 4 PERSONNEL: VOTED \$134,685 as recommended by the Town Manager. Unanimous.

BUDGET 5 COMPTROLLER: VOTED \$158,010 as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee (Foskett). Unanimous.

BUDGET 6 TREASURER: VOTED \$530,551 as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee (Foskett). Unanimous.

BUDGET 7 POSTAGE: VOTED \$122,753 as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee (Foskett). Unanimous.

BUDGET 12 PARKING: VOTED \$70,374 as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee (Foskett). Unanimous.

BUDGET 8 ASSESSORS: VOTED \$266,375 as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee (Foskett). Unanimous.

BUDGET 9 LEGAL: VOTED \$595,857 as recommended by the Town Manager. Unanimous.

BUDGET 15 ZBA: VOTED \$19,659 as recommended by the General Government Subcommittee (Howard). Unanimous.

COMMITTEE: Meetings are planned for 4/30 before Town Meeting, 5/3 Saturday 8:30AM. . Tosti is planning to have the Finance Committee Report ready for Town Meeting on 5/7.

RESERVE FUND BALANCE \$300,000

Peter B. Howard
Secretary

Budget & Article Action Summary

| Bud # | Date presented | Date of vote | \$ | Vote | Art# | Date presented | Date of vote | \$ | Vote/ assigned to |
|-------|----------------|--------------|--------|-----------|------|----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 1 | 4/26 | 4/26 | 10027 | Unanimous | 11 | 2/19 | 2/19 | bylaw chng | 11-2 |
| 2 | 4/26 | 4/26 | 292765 | Unanimous | 13 | 2/3 | 2/3 | support | |
| 3 | 4/26 | 4/26 | 274004 | Unanimous | 14 | 2/19 | | no report | |
| 4 | 4/26 | 4/26 | 134685 | Unanimous | 16 | 4/26 | | Tabled | |
| 5 | 4/26 | 4/26 | 758010 | Unanimous | 17 | 2/19 | | no report | |
| 6 | 4/26 | 4/26 | 530551 | Unanimous | 20 | 2/11 | 2/11 | no report | Unanimous |
| 7 | 4/26 | 4/26 | 122753 | Unanimous | 21 | 2/11 | 2/11 | no report | Unanimous |
| 8 | 4/26 | 4/26 | 266375 | Unanimous | 23 | | | | Foskett |
| 9 | 4/26 | 4/26 | 595857 | Unanimous | 24 | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | 25 | 2/19 | | no report | |
| 11 | | | | | 26 | 3/26 | | | |
| 12 | 4/26 | 4/26 | 70374 | Unanimous | 27 | 3/26 | 3/26 | no action | Unanimous |
| 13 | | | | | 30 | 2/26 | | info request | |
| 14 | | | | | 31 | 2/26 | | info request | |
| 15 | 4/26 | 4/26 | 19659 | Unanimous | 32 | 2/19 | | no report | |
| 16 | | | | | 33 | 2/3 | postponed | | |
| 17a | | | | | 34 | 2/3 | postponed | | |
| 17b | | | | | 37 | | | | |
| 17c | | | | | 38 | | | | |
| 17d | | | | | 39 | | | | |
| 17e | | | | | 41 | 2/5 | info req'd | | |
| 17f | | | | | 42 | 2/5 | info req'd | | |
| 19 | 4/16 | | | | 43 | 2/5 | info req'd | | |
| 20 | | | | | 44 | 3/26 | 3/26 | favorbl act | Unanimous |
| 21a | | | | | 45 | 3/26 | 3/26 | no report | Unanimous |
| 21b | | | | | 46 | 3/26 | 3/26 | no report | Unanimous |
| 21c | | | | | 47 | 3/26 | 3/26 | no report | Unanimous |
| 21d | 4/2 | | | | 48 | 3/26 | 3/26 | no report | Unanimous |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|------|---------------|-----------|-----|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 22 | | | | | 49 | 3/26 | 3/26 | no report | Unanimous |
| 23 | | | | | 50 | 3/26,4/26 | 3/26,4/26 | 146000 | 15-1 |
| 24 | | | | | 51 | 3/26,4/26 | 3/26,4/26 | tabled | Unanimous |
| 25 | | | | | 52 | 3/26 | | | |
| 26 | | | | | 53 | 3/26,4/14 | 4/14 | favor action | Unanimous |
| W/S | | | | | 55 | 3/26 | | | Du Bois |
| Rec | 3/5 | | | | 56 | 3/31 | 3/31 | 6747373 | Unanimous |
| Rnk | | | | | 57 | 3/26 | 3/26 | no action | Unanimous |
| COA | | | | | 59 | 3/31,4/14 | | | De Courcey |
| YS | | | | | 60 | 2/19,26 3/5 HumRt 3/26 CPC 3/26 Disabl | 2/19,26 3/5 3/26 3/26 | 10%reduct 4500 0 0 | Unanimous Unanimous Unanimous Unanimous |
| | | | | | 61 | 2/19 | 2/19 | no action | Unanimous |
| | | | | | 63A | 2/26,3/26 | 2/19 | 2000 | 8-7 |
| | | | | | 63B | 2/26,3/26 | 2/19 | 5667 | 14-1 |
| | | | | | 63C | 3/26 | | | |
| | | | | | 63D | 2/26 | 2/19 | 0 | Unanimous |
| | | | | | 63E | 2/26 | 2/19 | 3000 | 12-2 |
| 80 | | | | | 64B | 3/26UnEm | | | |
| | | | | | 64C | 3/26Trav | 3/26 | 1500 | Unanimous |
| | | | | | 64E | 2/26 | 2/26 | 9813 | Unanimous |
| 79 | | | | | 65 | 3/26 | 3/26 | no action | Unanimous |
| 78 | 4/23 | 4/23 | no action | Unanimous | 66 | 3/26 | 3/26 | no action | Unanimous |
| 77 | | | | Olsen | 67 | 2/5,2/11 | 2/11 | no action | Unanimous |
| 76 | 4/23 | | | no report | 68 | 3/17,4/14 | 3/17 | no action | Unanimous |
| 74 | 4/2 | | | | 69 | 2/11 | 2/11,3/26 | no action | Unanimous |
| 73 | 4/23 | 4/23 | 180343 | Unanimous | 70 | 2/19 | 2/19 | no action or \$35k w/ OR | 12-2 |
| 72 | 3/17,4/23 | 3/17 | 15k to 35k | Unanimous | 71 | 3/17,4/23 | 3/17,4/23 | no action | 14-1 |